

VZCZCXYZ0000
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHHE #0074 0521302
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 211302Z FEB 08
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4075

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 000074

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/21/2018
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [UNMIK](#) [FI](#)
SUBJECT: FINNISH RESPONSE - U.S. DECISION TO RECOGNIZE
KOSOVO INDEPENDENCE

REF: A. SECSTATE 16319

[B](#). SECSTATE 13716

[C](#). SECSTATE 15111

Classified By: POLOFF LISA CONESA FOR REASONS
1.4 (B) AND (D)

[1](#). (C) PolOff spoke with Juha Ottman, Director, Unit for Western Balkans on February 21 regarding reftels. On February 18 GoF declared its intention to recognize Kosovo independence, with formal recognition expected on February [29](#). GoF's process requires that the cabinet approve the recognition then present it to the president via meetings held only on Fridays. The first possible occasion for such approval is after the president's return on February 29. Ottman stated the item is on the agenda.
HYATT